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Tutbury Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and of the



Public Health Inspector

for the Year 1956

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To the Chairman and Members of
the Tutbury Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1956.

In considering the Vital Statistics, it must be borne in mind that in a district of this size, small changes in certain totals make a considerable difference in the various Rates. The Death Rate is considerably below the national Rate and the Birth Rate appears to be stabilised at its present level. It is worthy of remark that out of the total of 141 deaths, 83 were of persons aged 70 and over.

Infectious Diseases have been slightly less prevalent than in 1954. No notifiable disease approached the level of even a minor epidemic.

There has again been a considerable number of children immunised. No cases of Diphtheria have been notified since 1945. Further improvements are still desirable, as there is by now little opportunity for children to acquire natural immunity. A continued drop in the numbers of children immunised will increase the possibility of a recurrence of epidemics of diphtheria.

While it is too soon to ascribe the marked fall in the incidence of Whooping Cough in the District to the County Council's Immunisation Scheme, it is to be hoped that this scheme will produce results comparable to those achieved by Diphtheria Immunisation.

Immunisation against Poliomyelitis commenced during the year but as the vaccine was scarce only a few children were inoculated. No complaints of ill-effects were received and it would appear that the vaccine is remarkably free from "side effects."

24 Council houses and 39 private houses were completed and occupied during the year.

While this number compares favourably with similar districts and a start has been made I feel that some two or three apartment dwellings should be included in future programmes to provide for elderly or childless couples, to avoid using the standard five apartment houses uneconomically, to discourage the practice of taking in lodgers, and facilitate the programme of demolition.

1956 was a comparatively busy year as far as the National Assistance Acts 1948 and 1951 were concerned. While official action was taken in two cases only, there were fourteen instances where enquiries were made and action considered.

While a start has been made in providing three roomed bungalows for the elderly and for childless couples, there is still a serious deficiency in the services available for the aged. The chronic sick can, with difficulty, owing to the shortage of beds and nurses, be admitted to hospital. Here I must thank the Physician Superintendent of the Andressy Hospital for excellent co-operation in dealing with such cases. Aged persons living in insanitary conditions can be admitted to the Welfare Homes run by the County Council but there are cases for which no provision is made and for whom it is almost impossible to find accommodation.

These cases are the aged, who, while infirm and requiring some nursing attention are not ill and not living in insanitary circumstances. It is distressing and discouraging to be unable to help such cases, but until suitable accommodation is provided nothing can be done until actual illness permits their being considered for admission to a hospital for the chronic sick.

What is required, and the need is urgent, is accommodation half way, literally and metaphorically between the Welfare Home and the Hospital for the Chronic Sick. Such an establishment would meet the needs of the cases mentioned above and be useful as a convalescent home for the hospital and as hospital for less serious cases from the Welfare Homes.

I have to thank Members of the Council, the Council officers and the Health Department Staff for their help and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES FLEMING,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

CHARLES FLEMING, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

(Who is also M.O.H. Rugeley Urban District and Assistant
County M.O.H., Staffordshire).

Public Health Inspector

R. BRUNNING, A.R.S.H.

Assistant Public Health Inspector

S. A. GAMBLE

Clerk

Mrs. I. M. MORGAN

Miss Y. WEST (appointed 26/11/56).

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	..	..	..	..	..	..	31,708
Registrar General's estimate of Resident population							
Mid. 1956	..	..	..	..	..	..	15,490
Number of inhabited houses end of 1956 according to							
Rate Books	..	..	..	..	..	..	4.963
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	£183,757
Sum represented by a penny rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	£741

VITAL STATISTICS

				1955			1956		
				Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.
LIVE BIRTHS									
Legitimate	..	..		239	120	119	240	131	109
Illegitimate	..	..		5	3	2	4	3	1
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				244	123	121	244	134	110
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
							1955	1956	
Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population									
				..	..	..	15.97	15.75	
Standardised Birth Rate ..				..	..	..	16.61	16.54	
STILL BIRTHS									
				1955			1956		
Legitimate	..	..		7	6	1	9	4	5
Illegitimate	..	..		—	—	—	1	1	—
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				7	6	1	10	5	5
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
							1955	1956	
Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)							27.89	39.37	
Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population .. ..				..	..	..	0.46	0.65	
DEATHS									
				1955			1956		
				138	69	69	141	67	74
							1955	1956	
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population									
				..	..	..	9.03	9.13	
Corrected for age and sex distribution ..							8.93	9.76	
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES									
Birth Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.0	15.6	
Still Birth Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	23.2	23.8	
Death Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.7	11.7	
DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES									
Puerperal Sepsis	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	Nil	
Other Puerperal Causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	Nil	

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

			1955			1956		
			Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	5	1	4	4	3	1
Illegitimate	1	—	1	—	—	—
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			6	1	5	4	3	1

Under 4 weeks	..	5	1	4	3	2	1
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		1955	1956
INFANT MORTALITY RATE			
All infants per 1,000 births	24.59	16.43
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	21.00	16.67

INFANT MORTALITY RATE FOR ENGLAND AND WALES							
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	24·9	23·8
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	15	20
Deaths from Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	Nil

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER

The supply of water to the greater part of the Rural District is by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, and the quality and quantity have been satisfactory.

The undermentioned properties were connected to the Company's mains during the year :

(a) *New Mains*

Barton	..	2 dwelling houses
Tatenhill	..	12 dwelling houses
Yoxall	..	8 dwelling houses
<hr/>		
Total ..	..	22
<hr/>		

(b) *Existing Mains*

Tutbury Parish is supplied from a well and reservoir by the Rural District Council. The quality of the water is satisfactory.

Bacteriological examination and chemical analysis have been made of this water and the Coli Aerogenes Content (presumptive Coli) was nil, except in one sample, which was due to a defect in the chlorinating equipment.

The Chemical analysis showed the water to be organically of satisfactory quality, but very hard.

The hardness before boiling was	..	..	47.3°
The hardness after boiling was	..	..	28.4°
Temporary hardness	..	..	18.9°

The number of houses in the Rural District which are supplied with water from public mains is as follows :

Anslow	..	..	..	..	..	103
Barton-under-Needwood	..	..	..	..	..	652
Branston	..	..	..	..	..	723
Dunstall	..	..	..	..	..	90
Hanbury	..	..	..	..	..	122
Outwoods	..	..	..	..	..	670
Rolleston	..	..	..	..	..	555
Stretton	..	..	..	..	..	696
Tatenhill	..	..	..	..	..	145
Tutbury	..	..	..	..	..	745
Wychnor	..	..	..	..	..	14
Yoxall	..	..	..	..	..	256
						<hr/> 4,771 <hr/>

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

It is a matter for concern that the schemes for the new sewage disposal plant at Yoxall and the extension and modernisation of the existing plant at Barton-under-Needwood cannot be proceeded with due to the restrictions on capital expenditure. Serious public health nuisances arise in each parish, notably in Rangemore and Hanbury.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

(a) *Nightsoil*

The weekly collection service continues to work satisfactorily. The nightsoil is composted with straw in lagoons sited on an old refuse tip in Outwoods, which is a very satisfactory method of disposal.

(b) *Household Refuse*

The fortnightly collection service was satisfactory throughout the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

23 pan closets have been abolished and water closets substituted by owners during the year.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

One complaint of smoke nuisance was received during the year. Advice was given to the stoker at the premises concerned and no further complaints were received.

CAMPING SITES

The owner of the caravan site at Rolleston-on-Dove provided suitable sanitary facilities on his site, and it now compares well with any site in the Country.

SWIMMING BATHS

The only swimming bath in the district is a privately owned one in the village of Rolleston. This appears to be well managed and supervised.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

11 houses were disinfected after the occurrence of infectious diseases, deaths, etc., and 3 houses were disinfested following complaints of insect infestation.

NEW HOUSING ACCOMMODATION

During the year 39 private enterprise houses were completed and occupied. 24 Council houses were completed and occupied.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

The dairies of the district have been regularly inspected and have been maintained in a clean condition.

FOOD SHOPS

Inspection of food shops in the district have been made by the Public Health Inspector's Staff. 9 condemnation certificates were issued in respect of quantities of food found to be unfit for human consumption.

(i) *Number of Food Premises*

Cafes	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Factory Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Ice Cream Vendors	..	..	..	..	..	..	47
Butchers' Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Bakeries	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Fish and Chip Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Other Food Premises, including Inns, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	91

(ii) *Registration of Food Premises*

Under Section 16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955	56
---	----	----	----	----	----	----

(iii) *Licences under Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949*

(a) Dealers	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
(b) Supplementary	..	..	..	..	..	..	6

(iv) *Inspection of Food Premises*

Number of Inspections	86
-----------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----

(v) *Disposal of Condemned Food*

The condemned food consisting of tinned commodities was buried on refuse tips.

(vi) *Special Examination of Food Consignments*

No special examinations were necessary.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Measles showed a typical biennial rise and the figures for scarlet fever and whooping cough showed a slight decrease.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

Immunisation against Diphtheria has been carried out as usual at the five Infant Welfare Centres in the District. The response is fairly satisfactory. Tribute must be paid to the two Health Visitors in the District for their excellent work in this connection.

There have again been no cases of Diphtheria, the last reported case being in 1945.

PRIMARY IMMUNISATIONS

	1956	1955
Children under five years of age treated ..	133	144
Children of school age treated	64	50

REINFORCING INJECTIONS

School children treated	124	163
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Disease		Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	8 (8)	— (2)	— (—)
Pneumonia	.....	6 (6)	— (—)	2 (3)
Puerperal Pyrexia	.....	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Food Poisoning	.....	— ( 1)	— (—)	— (—)
Whooping Cough	.....	30 (24)	— (—)	— (—)
Measles	.....	79 (312)	— (—)	— (—)
Erysipelas	.....	3 (3)	— (—)	— (—)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum		— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Meningococcal Meningitis		1 (—)	1 (—)	1 (—)

(Figures for 1955 in brackets)

Analysis of notified cases according to age

Disease	AGE GROUPS								Total
	Under 1 year	1—2	3—4	5—9	10—14	15—24	25—44	45—64	65 and Over
Scarlet Fever			1	6	1				8
Pneumonia	1			2				2	1
Puerperal Pyrexia									6
Food Poisoning									
Whooping Cough	1	4	12	12	1				30
Measles	2	10	18	46	3				79
Erysipelas								3	3
Meningococcal Meningitis		1							1

TUBERCULOSIS

- A. The rate per 1,000 population, 6.15 in 1956, compares very favourably with that of Staffordshire as a whole, where the rate was 9.7 per 1,000 in 1955.

Cases on Tuberculosis Register, 31st December, 1956

Figures for 1955 in brackets

MALES		FEMALES		TOTAL
Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	
48 (44)	8 (10)	30 (34)	7 (6)	93 (94)

- B. Rate per 1,000 population—6.00 (6.15)

No deaths were notified during the year. Six new cases were notified, but a total of seven cases were removed, a cure having been made or a case having left the district.

New Cases and Mortality during 1956

Figures for 1955 in brackets

AGE GROUPS	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
1—5	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	1 (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
6—15	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
16—25	2 (-)	- (1)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (1)	- (-)	- (-)
26—35	- (-)	- (1)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
36—45	- (4)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
46—55	1 (1)	- (-)	- (1)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
56—65	1 (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (2)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Over 65	1 (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Totals	5 (5)	- (2)	- (1)	1 (-)	- (2)	- (1)	- (-)	- (-)

CANCER

Figures for 1955 in brackets

Deaths from Cancer for the year ended 31st December, 1956

Sex	AGE GROUPS								Total
	Under 26	26 to 35	36 to 45	46 to 55	56 to 65	66 to 75	76 to 85	Over 85	
M	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	2 (3)	5 (1)	1 (2)	2 (1)	- (-)	10 (7)
F	1 (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (1)	3 (3)	1 (1)	5 (3)	- (-)	10 (8)
Total	1 (-)	- (-)	- (-)	2 (4)	8 (4)	2 (3)	7 (4)	- (-)	20 (15)

Causes of Death in Tutbury Rural District during the year 1956

Causes of Death			Male		Female	
			1955	1956	1955	1956
ALL CAUSES	.....	.....	69	67	69	74
1	Tuberculosis of respiratory system		1	—	1	—
2	Other forms of Tuberculosis	.....	—	—	1	—
3	Syphilitic disease	.....	2	—	—	—
4	Diphtheria	.....	—	—	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	.....	—	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	.....	—	—	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	.....	—	—	—	—
8	Measles	.....	—	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases		—	—	—	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach		—	2	1	2
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus		3	1	—	—
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	.....	—	—	1	1
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	.....	—	—	1	—
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms		4	7	5	7
15	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	.....	—	—	—	—
16	Diabetes	.....	—	1	1	—
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system		8	5	14	11
18	Coronary disease, angina	.....	7	9	3	5
19	Hypertension with heart disease		1	1	2	2
20	Other heart disease	.....	20	15	9	15
21	Other circulatory disease	.....	3	2	3	5
22	Influenza	.....	1	1	—	—
23	Pneumonia	.....	1	2	1	2
24	Bronchitis	.....	3	3	5	4
25	Other diseases of respiratory system		2	1	2	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum		5	1	—	2
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa		—	2	—	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	.....	—	—	—	—
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	.....	1	1	—	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion		—	—	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	.....	—	—	—	2
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases		2	7	17	8
33	Motor vehicle accidents	.....	2	4	1	2
34	All other accidents	.....	1	2	2	2
35	Suicide	.....	2	—	1	2
36	Homicide and operations of war		—	—	—	—

Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector for the year 1956

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1956.

Steady progress has been maintained in the improvement of houses with the assistance of improvement grants, and the proportion of tenanted to owner/occupied houses (16 to 12) is very satisfactory. The amount of work involved in dealing with these applications is considerable, involving as it does, the inspection of each house, the checking of the specifications, estimates, and bills of quantities, quite apart from the preparation of reports and the usual routine of inspection as the works proceed. This work has, however, resulted in a more realistic attitude to the question of improvement grants generally, and has ensured that the scheme is administered equitably both from the ratepayers' and the applicants' points of view.

The work of slum clearance has occupied an increasing proportion of the work of the Department. The figures set out in the body of the report compare favourably with other Districts, but it is hoped that even better progress will be made next year in this most important work.

Another matter for satisfaction is the rodent control work. In addition to the summary given, surveys of ricks have been made to assist research workers at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and the fact that we were asked to assist in this work reflects the confidence the Ministry officials have in your rodent operator.

In December the Council decided to engage a paid pupil in the Department as from the beginning of 1957. This gives practical effect to the recommendation of the Minister of Health and the Working Party on the recruitment, training and qualification of public health inspectors, and the Council are to be congratulated on this decision.

In conclusion I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, and the members of the Staff for the excellent support which I have received.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

R. BRUNNING,
Public Health Inspector.

WATER SUPPLY

The following table gives details of the water samples taken during the year.

SOURCE	No. of Samples taken for Bacteri- ological Exam- ination	No. of Samples taken for Chemical Analysis	RESULTS			
			Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
			Bact.	Chemical	Bact.	Chemical
Private Wells	3	3	—	1	3	2
Public Mains	9	5	8	5	1	—
TOTAL	12	8	8	6	4	2

The one unsatisfactory bacteriological sample from public mains was taken from the Tutbury supply. On investigation the chlorinating equipment was found to be slightly defective. Adjustments were made and no further trouble was experienced.

The owner of the property supplied by the unsatisfactory private well was requested to connect the premises to the public mains.

A total of 87 properties have been connected to the mains during the year.

HOUSING

Improvement Grants

28 applications for improvement grants were approved during the year, 12 being in respect of owner-occupied houses, and 16 tenanted houses. The total value of the work involved was £15,515 and the total value of grant £6,212.

Slum Clearance

14 demolition orders were made, and 6 undertakings accepted from owners.

It was decided to demolish one cottage owned by the Council at Hanbury. This cottage, which was unfit for human habitation, had been included in the purchase of land for use as a housing site some years before.

10 houses were demolished as a result of slum clearance procedure taken in previous years.

Sanitary Accommodation

The pails at 23 premises were converted to water closets.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The fortnightly collection of household refuse from all premises, and the weekly collection of nightsoil from approximately 600 premises with pail closets, has proved satisfactory during the year. In addition 97 privately-owned and 121 Council-owned cesspools were emptied.

Three Shelvoke & Drewry 11 cubic yard vehicles are employed on refuse collection, and as two of these have been in constant service since 1948 the Council have considered the advisability of purchasing a new vehicle. A week's demonstration with a Shelvoke & Drewry Fore and Aft Tipper was arranged in October, as I consider that by using a vehicle of this type, with a capacity of 16-18 cubic yards, considerable economies could be effected.

The household refuse is tipped crude at three tips in the District and is covered each week with boiler ash obtained from breweries in Burton. Regular fortnightly treatment with insecticidal powders and liquids has checked insect pests, whilst rodent control by the rodent operator is maintained as a matter of routine.

Nightsoil is disposed of by composting with straw in lagoons, and the analyst's report on the samples of the product submitted to him is as follows :

" The results of analysis have been calculated on a basis of a 70% water content and figures for a farmyard manure of similar water content are given for comparison purposes.

			Sample Farmyard Manure	
Dry matter	..	..	30.0%	30.00%
Nitrogen (N)	..	..	0.8%	0.57%
Potash (K ₂ O)	..	..	0.2%	0.88%
Phosphoric Acid (P ₂ O ₅)	..	..	1.5%	0.26%

Approximately two-thirds of the dry matter consisted of organic matter (humus)."

Despite the obviously high quality of the compost, it has been difficult to find a purchaser, and in order to clear the accumulated stock it was decided to allow a firm of nurserymen to have it free of charge provided they supplied the labour and transport for its removal.

SALVAGE

The total proceeds from salvaged materials have been almost identical with last years, when £453 was realised. Full details are as follows :

Scrap Metals and Textiles

Description			Weight				Value		
			T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	..		49	3	2	—	196	14	0
Scrap Metal	..	..	25	3	3	2	222	11	9
Textiles	..	..	1	11	3	—	32	19	0
TOTAL	..	..	75	19	—	2	452	4	9

Half of the money received is paid to the workmen as salvage bonus.

RODENT CONTROL

This service was continued successfully in co-operation with the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

A summary of the work done in the year is as follows :

	Local Authority Premises	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	Business	Total
No. of Properties Inspected ..	49	699	100	48	896
No. of Properties found to be infested ..	29	202	36	23	290
No. of Properties treated ..	29	189	24	23	265

In addition the sewers received their annual tests and treatments as follows :

Parish				Manholes Tested	Manholes Requiring Treatment
Tutbury	..	..	..	27	18
Outwoods	..	..	..	20	4
Rolleston	..	..	..	13	1
Barton	..	..	..	18	2
Branston	..	..	..	10	—
Stretton	..	..	..	15	—

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The above Act affects all shops where there are employees. 73 inspections and 15 re-inspections were carried out and informal notices served upon the owners of 2 shops.

FOOD INSPECTION

MEAT

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

				Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	..	..		419	38	1,129	355
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</i>							
Whole carcasses condemned	..			—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	81	—	14	17
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	..	..	..	19.81	—	1.24	4.79
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>							
Whole carcasses condemned	..			—	—	—	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	23	—	—	13
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	..	..		5.49	—	—	3.66
<i>Cysticercosis</i>							
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	3	—	1	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned				—	—	—	—

FOOD

2 cwts. 1 qr. of tinned foods were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

DAIRIES

There are four dairies in the district and the standard of cleanliness is good.

DISINFECTION

11 houses were disinfected after the occurrence of infectious disease or deaths, etc. Investigations were made as to the possible source of infection of each case of infectious disease.

DISINFESTATION

3 infestations by fleas and other insects were overcome by treatment with 10% D.D.T. solution and Gammexane smoke generators.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS

There are 13 individual moveable dwellings licensed by the Council in the District. These are inspected regularly to ensure that the sanitary arrangements are satisfactory.

The owner of the land at Rolleston-on-Dove which is used as a site for 24 caravans was pressed to provide proper facilities for use on the site. The work was completed during the year, and the site is now of a very high standard, having a sanitary annexe comprising W.C. accommodation and shower baths separate for the sexes, a small laundry, and constant supplies of hot and cold water. He was reluctant to provide electric light in the annexe, but I am glad to say he was finally persuaded.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948

The following shows the type and number of factories in the District, and the number of outworkers.

Premises				No. on the Register	Inspections
Mechanical	..	..	..	39	25
Non-Mechanical	..	..	..	25	20
TOTAL	..	..	..	64	45
No. of Outworkers on list				5	—

All premises were found to be satisfactory.

